GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:24
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2017
Closing of Industries near Lakes
Singh Shri Hukum

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal (NGT) has issued any orders/directions for closing of industries near lakes in the country;
(b) if so, the details and present status thereof, State/UT-wise;
(c) whether the NGT appointed Panel has asked the Government to seal units violating its orders/directions and laid down penalty for dumping waste; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 24 due for reply on 18.07.2017 regarding Closing of Industries near Lakes by SHRI HUKUM SINGH

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench, New Delhi in its order dated 19th April, 2017 vide Original Application No. 217 of 2017 and 125/2017 (MA No. 440/2017) has issued various directions to initiate action in order to protect the "Bellandur Lake" in Bangalore from pollution and directed Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) to take further action.

The Officers of KSPCB have inspected 97 industries, which are significant from water pollution control point of view in the Bellandur catchment area and submitted a report. Based on the report, Board has issued closure orders to 76 industries. The remaining 13 industries have provided facilities for treating the effluents, there is no discharge directly / indirectly to the lake from these industries and 8 industries have closed on their own.

All the 76 industries which have been served with the notice of closure have been closed. This has been confirmed by the inspection of the Officers of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) and KSPCB. Bangalore Electricity Supply Company (BESCOM) authorities have also submitted letters of power disconnection to the above industries.

Out of the above 76 industries, 6 industries have approached Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka and obtained stay and also taken steps for stoppage of discharges directly / indirectly into the lake. Accordingly, the revocation orders have been issued to 04 industries. The remaining 02 industries, cases are pending before the Hon'ble high court of Karnataka.

The KSPCB has also issued Closure Directions to 2 automobile service stations of M/s. Sireesh Auto Private Limited. One is located at Basapura Village and the other one is located at Roopena Agrahara Village which is also located in Bellandur lake catchment area, but was left out in 97 effluent generating industries' list.

Apart from the above, it was found that, there were 38 small scale industries operating illegally. Closure orders were issued by the KSPCB to these industries. In total, KSPCB has issued closure orders to 116 industries as detailed above.

Further, in accordance with the directions of NGT, the joint inspections by the officers of CPCB and KSPCB were conducted and the Board has issued revocation orders for 46 industries who have adopted proper pollution control measures and not discharging any effluent directly or indirectly into the lake

As per the direction issued by the Hon'ble NGT vide its direction dated 19th April, 2017, the following action has been taken to avoid dumping of Construction and Demolition waste in the vicinity of the Bellandur lake situated in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) area of Bengaluru.

â€¢ 5 CC Cameras have been installed around the lake and duly monitored through CCTV by ward level officers of BBMP;
â€¢ Security guards have been deputed to sensitive and vulnerable areas to avoid dumping of waste;
â€¢ Sufficient lighting is provided on roads starting from Yamlur channel to Bellandur channel;
â€¢ Action has been taken to clear the channels in the downstream of the lake;
â€¢ The photography of lake area has been taken through drone and it is found that no noticeable MSW or C&D waste is seen in the area or in the Buffer Zone;
â€¢ The team of officers led by Joint Commissioner (Mahadevapura) are going for night rounds in BBMP Prahari vehicle to monitor if

any unauthorized vehicles are dumping any kinds of waste;
â€¢ Notices /posters have been put up in prominent places around the lake with an instruction to the defaulters regarding imposing fine of Rs 5.00 Lakhs per instance for littering in and around the lake;
â€¢ Action has been taken to levy fine Rs 5 Lakh on the garbage contractor for dumping waste in the downstream of the Bellandur lake and the concerned Health Inspector is also kept under suspension due to negligence of duty; and
â€¢ Those who are found to pollute the lakes will be liable for criminal prosecution besides a penalty of Rs. 5.00 lakh per event".

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